

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, delete the heading:

DESCRIPTION

Add a new heading and paragraph at page 1, after the title as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a national phase application based on PCT/EP2004/050429, filed April 2, 2004, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

Page 1, before line 9, add the following new subheading:

Description of the Related Art

Page 4, before line 23, add the following new section heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 4, line 33 to page 5, line 2, amend the specification as follows:

According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of controlling access to a shared communication medium ~~as set forth in the appended independent method claim 1.~~

Page 6, lines 11-13, amend the specification as follows:

According to another aspect of the present invention, a MAC layer ~~as set forth in the appended independent device claim 12~~ is provided for controlling the access to a shared communication medium by communication network users.

Page 7, lines 15-16, amend the specification as follows:

Other aspects of the invention ~~relates~~ relate to a transmitter for a network user ~~as set forth in claim 24~~, and a communications network ~~as set forth in claim 22~~.

Page 7, before line 17, add the following new section heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 8, before line 13, add the following new section heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION